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Press Release

Immediate Release

## The 21st ifva Awards Presentation Ceremony Awards Winners Announcement Sparkle the Fire of Creativity, Light up the Blaze of the City

Organised by the Hong Kong Arts Centre, sponsored by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), the **21st ifva Awards Presentation Ceremony** has been held tonight (5 March) at agnès b. CINEMA in Hong Kong Arts Centre, with a total of 16 prizes awarded to winners of four short film categories respectively. Honourable guests include **veteran film producer Nansun Shi, director of *She Remembers, He Forgets* Wong Sau-Ping Adam, TVMost founder Roy Tsui, music producer Adrian Chow, Head of Film Programmes of LCSD Mable Ho**, and representatives from sponsors. A total of 1062 entries from Hong Kong and Asia were received, and the jury panel selected the finalists from 827 qualified entries. Please refer to the appendix for a complete award list and details for awards and prizes.

### Open Category: *The Sea Within* – A Realistic Portrayal of a Fishermen Couple

Finalists of Open Category cover a wide range of themes, from political prospect, gender identity, education system to everyday life, which encouraged an enthusiastic discussion among the jury panel. **Wong Wai-nap's *The Sea Within*** received the Gold Award. It is a story inspired by Wong's fisherman family, and enacted by his own parents who struggles between reality and ideal. **Juror Vincent Chui** made his comments on the work, "with minimalistic and precise shots, natural and unpretentious acting and subtly realistic scenes depicting everyday life, this rich and moving film depicts the lives of a long-married couple while at the same time laments the demise of Hong Kong's fishing industry."

### Youth Category: *Oxygen* – Cautionary Tale from Dream-pursuing Youth

Gold Award winner **Yip Yuen-ching's *Oxygen*** speaks for the younger generation in the city. Her cautionary tale foretells a society under surveillance from the government in 2047, fifty years after the Handover. **Jury member Wong Chi-chung** thinks that the piece is "full of cyberpunk sentiments, with a tinge of rebelliousness reminiscent of that of *12 Monkeys*, and expresses fear for the future and an accusation of the abuse of power by the current leaders. There is a poignant sense of resignation across generations."

### Animation Category: *Behind the Schoolbag* – Painting as Metaphor of Self Salvation

***Behind the Schoolbag***, Gold Award winner of Animation Category, exhibits a unique style through the combination of minimalistic composition and character designs. Director **Ho Chun-yu** refracts the pressure and alienation of city life through his work, and takes it as his own salvation. As **juror Yu Ka-ho** suggests, "the pain of growing up may have dissipated without any trace, what remains is an unquenchable longing for redemption."

### Asian New Force: *Playgrounds* – The Different View of Lost Paradise

Gold Award of Asian New Force Category goes to ***Playgrounds*** from India. Director **Shamik Sen Gupta** & **Pallavi MD** question about the idea of habitat through this film. The title of the film also alludes to the loss of innocence for everyone. As **juror Bede Cheng** said, "the director takes us on a quick tour of poverty, migration, rampant development, and moral choices. The city is also a 'playground' for the director who turned the urban landscape into a giant set."

### Media Art Category: *Ming Jing* – Magnetic Field Effects from Afar

Results for Media Art Category had been announced on 25 February at the opening of CINEMA 2.0 Surviving the Glass System: Media Art Exhibition. Gold Award work ***Ming Jing*** is an installation with 750 bowls each with a magnetic bead placed inside. The other end of the installation is connected to a sensor placed at the entrance of a Beijing gallery, and through magnetic field it triggers vibrations to the magnetic bead to create a ripple-like effect. Local artist **Chan Kiu-hong** illustrates the interconnections among all things in the world which works like the butterfly effect. **Juror Ip Yuk-**

**yi**u interprets the work in terms of “the spaces inside and outside the bowl which reveals the subtle relationship between objects and people in a small world in this minimalistic and intellectual work of Zen.”

Prizes are generously sponsored by many parties who have been enormously supportive. Apart from cash prizes, overseas festival visits and trophies sponsored by LCSD and Pure Art Foundation, winners also receive professional filming equipment sponsored by Blackmagic Design Asia Pte. Ltd., including Blackmagic URSA 4K EF Camera (worth HKD\$40,000) and post-production software. Adobe System Hong Kong Ltd. is also sponsoring winners a Creative Cloud Individual Complete one-year subscription.

Besides the award presentation ceremony and the seven screenings, master class and public seminars in the past week, **CINEMA 2.0 Surviving the Glass System: Media Art Exhibition cum The 21st ifva Awards – Media Art Category Finalist Exhibition** is on the run until 12 March. Two screenings are coming up, namely **NEW ACTION EXPRESS Short Film Highlights** and *Transactions of Desire*. Also not to be missed is **People’s Cinema – Open-air Screening**, bringing three heartwarming short films to Centre Street of Sai Ying Pun on 11 March. They include Adam Wong’s *The Secret Taste*, and two of the *Ten Years* directors Jevons Au’s *Merry X’mas* and Zune Kwok’s *Homecoming*. Quoting from **ifva** Director Kattie Fan, **ifva** would continue to build up the independent spirit and connect creative communities with the fire of creativity. The 22nd **ifva** Award will start to call for entry soon, stay tuned!

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Organised by Hong Kong Arts Centre, **ifva** is an Incubator for Film and Visual media in Asia (formerly the Hong Kong Independent Short Film and Video Awards). Founded in 1995, **ifva** serves as a platform that actively promotes and encourages creative talents in Asia, making short films, videos, animation and media arts. With a cutting-edge vision and highlight independent spirit, **ifva** has evolved to promote different visual cultures while exploring the boundless potential of creative media. In addition to the annual competition and festival, **ifva** curates a host of programmes under two initiatives, “Cultivation” and “Engagement”. By connecting creative communities all over the world, **ifva** aims to engage everyone in the art of creation. **ifva** is also a core event of Entertainment Expo Hong Kong.

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## Appendix: The 21st ifva Awards Results

### Open Category

Award	Title	Winner(s)	Prizes
<b>Gold Award</b>	<b>The Sea Within</b>	Wong Wai-nap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HK\$50,000 Cash Prize</li> <li>- Adobe Creative Cloud Individual Complete one-year subscription</li> <li>- One Blackmagic URSA 4K EF Camera</li> <li>- One Trophy</li> </ul>
<b>Silver Award</b>	<b>The Food Fascists</b>	Yip Man-hay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HK\$30,000 Cash Prize</li> <li>- One Trophy</li> </ul>
<b>Special Mention</b>	<b>SOD-032</b>	Cheung Ho-lam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One Certificate</li> </ul>
	<b>From Beavis (M) to Beatrice (F) (Oct 2015 Edit)</b>	Wong Suet-ling Beatrice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One Certificate</li> </ul>

### Youth Category

Award	Title	Winner(s)	Prizes
<b>Gold Award</b>	<b>Oxygen</b>	Yip Yuen-ching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HK\$20,000 Cash Prize</li> <li>- Adobe Creative Cloud Individual Complete one-year subscription</li> <li>- One Blackmagic DaVinci Resolve software</li> <li>- One Trophy</li> </ul>
<b>Silver Award</b>	<b>When the Sun Goes Down</b>	Cheng Kui-sum, Wong Chun-lung	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HK\$10,000 Cash Prize</li> <li>- One Trophy</li> </ul>
<b>Special Mention</b>	<b>All I Want</b>	Wu Tin-long	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One Certificate</li> </ul>
	<b>Whiteboard</b>	Keung Shing-lok	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One Certificate</li> </ul>
	<b>The Dormer</b>	Ho Yui-chi Savio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One Certificate</li> </ul>

### Animation Category

Award	Title	Winner(s)	Prizes
Gold Award	Behind the Schoolbag	Ho Chun-yu	- HK\$50,000 Cash Prize - Adobe Creative Cloud Individual Complete one-year subscription - One Blackmagic Fusion software - One Trophy
Silver Award	Shear Marks	Lam Ho-tak, Kwok Man-ho, Ng Kai-chung	- HK\$30,000 Cash Prize - One Trophy
Special Mention	Eye'm Free	Pau Ching-yee Louise	- One Certificate
	Mur Mur	Lo Hin-kit	- One Certificate

### Media Art Category

Award	Title	Winner(s)	Prizes
Gold Award	Ming Jing	Chan Kiu-hong (Hong Kong)	- HK\$50,000 Cash Prize - Adobe Creative Cloud Individual Complete one-year subscription - One Blackmagic Fusion software - One Trophy
Silver Award	Rekion-crepitation-	Katsuki Nogami (Japan)	- HK\$30,000 Cash Prize - One Trophy
Special Mention	voice from the root, reclaiming	Yip Kai-chun (Hong Kong)	- One Certificate
Emerging Talent Award	The Elusive	Siu Wai-hang (Hong Kong)	- One Festival Visit - One Trophy

### Asian New Force Category

Award	Title	Winner(s)	Prizes
Gold Award	Playgrounds	Shamik Sen Gupta · Pallavi MD (India)	- HK\$30,000 Cash Prize - Adobe Creative Cloud Individual Complete one-year subscription - One Blackmagic Video Assist - One Trophy
Silver Award	Unfortunately	Sharokh Dolkou (Iran)	- HK\$20,000 Cash Prize - One Trophy
Special Mention	The Translator	Emre Kayis (Turkey)	- One Certificate